

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BONN 15827 201724Z

13

ACTION PPT-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 /026 W

----- 101786

R 201716Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1979

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BONN 15827

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GW, UG, CASC (OFWONO, HELEN AND FAMILY)

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF OFWONO FAMILY FROM UGANDA

REF: NAIROBI 9324; NAIROBI 9482

1. THE FRG FOREIGN OFFICE HAS PASSED US THE FOLLOWING DIPLOMATIC NOTE FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN KAMPALA, UGANDA TO THE FRG EMBASSY IN KAMPALA. THE NOTE IS DATED 7 SEPT. 1976, AND REQUESTS THAT MRS. OFWONO, AN AMERICAN CITIZEN FORMERLY MARRIED TO A UGANDAN, BE PREVENTED FROM OBTAINING US PASSPORTS FOR HER FIVE CHILDREN BEFORE A UGANDAN COURT CAN DECIDE ON THEIR CUSTODY. THE NOTE WAS SENT FOUR DAYS AFTER MRS. OFWONO DEPARTED UGANDA.
2. THE FRG EMBASSY REPORTS THAT, IN ITS REPLY TO THE UGANDANS, IT MERELY ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIPT OF THE NOTE AND NOTIFIED THEM IT WOULD PASS THE NOTE ON TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN BONN AND TO THE US EMBASSY IN NAIROBI.
3. BEGIN TEXT:

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IN ITS CAPACITY AS THE EMBASSY LOOKING AFTER THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 15827 201724Z

STATES OF AMERICA IN UGANDA AND HAS THE HONOUR TO IN-

FORM THE EMBASSY THAT AN AMERICAN CITIZEN AND A FORMER WIFE OF A UGANDAN CITIZEN, MRS. HELEN OFWONO, IS REPORTED TO HAVE STOLEN THE CHILDREN OF MR. OFWONO AND TAKEN THEM TO NAIROBI WITH THE INTENTION OF EVENTUALLY TAKING THEM TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THE MINISTRY HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT THE FIVE CHILDREN ARE PRESENTLY IN NAIROBI AWAITING TO BE ISSUED WITH PASSPORTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WHICH THEY REQUIRE FOR THEIR TRIP TO THE STATES. THE MINISTRY WOULD, THEREFORE, APPRECIATE IF THE EMBASSY COULD CONTACT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AND ADVISE THEM NOT TO ISSUE PASSPORTS TO THE FIVE CHILDREN CONSIDERING THAT THE COURT PROCEEDINGS AIMED AT OBTAINING THE DIVORCE RULING BETWEEN MR. OFWONO AND HIS FORMER WIFE HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLETED AND THAT MRS. OFWONO IN HER SUBMISSION TO THE COURT HAD REQUESTED FOR THE CUSTODY OF THE CHILDREN WHICH ISSUE HAD NOT BEEN RESOLVED BY THE COURTS OF LAW. IT WOULD, THEREFORE, BE ADVISABLE THAT THE CHILDREN BE RETURNED TO UGANDA AND IF AND WHEN THE COURTS OF LAW DECIDE TO GRANT THE CUSTODY OF THE CHILDREN TO MRS. OFWONO, BOTH MR. OFWONO AND THIS MINISTRY WILL HONOUR THAT DECISION AND IT IS ONLY THEN THAT THE CHILDREN CAN PROCEED TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE NAMES OF THE CHILDREN ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. DAVID OFWONO - AGED 16
2. JULIET OFWONO - AGED 14
3. JULIET OFWONO - AGED 12
4. MONICA OFWONO - AGED 9
5. POLYCAP OFWONO - AGED 7

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE EMBASSY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

END TEXT.
HILLENBRAND

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHILDREN, PASSPORTS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BONN15827
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760355-0889
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760942/aaaabkfd.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PPT
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NAIROBI 9324, 76 NAIROBI 9482
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL OF OFWONO FAMILY FROM UGANDA
TAGS: CASC, GE, UG, US, (OFWONO, HELEN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006